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The Black Olympians



Otis Davis, second from left, won the 400-meter gold medal in the 1960 Olympic Games. Not only have black Olympians

fared well on the track, they've also excelled on the basketball court. Perhaps the best known is player Bill Russell.

Basketball stars among Olympians who have done well 'after the gold'

By ART CARTER Syndicated Columnist

This article is the last in a three-part series.

While boxing and track and field have produced the bulk of black Olympic gold medalists, other sports,

after returning from Rome and went on to become one of the great stars in the NBA before his retirement.

Some other notable former basketball Olympians include **Carl Gain**, who played with Russell and Jones on the victorious team at Melbourne; **Walt Bellamy**, an alumnus of the 1960 team; **Walt Hazzard**, a member of the 1964 team, and **Spencer Haywood** and **Adrian**



especially basketball, have produced some of the more popular athletes who have signed lucrative professional contracts.

Perhaps the best known is **Bill Russell**, the great Boston Celtics player and coach. Russell, 49, last year completed a four-year run with CBS-TV during which he was a regular announcer with Dick Stockton covering NBA games.

Russell, who was a standout member of the Olympicwinning U.S. basketball team in 1956, dominated pro basketball after his collegiate days and Olympic experience. He starred as a player and coach for the Boston Celtics and was known as a student of the game as well as a teacher. Russell led Boston to an amazing 13 world championships as a player-coach. He now devotes his time to a variety of business interests.

Also on that victorious Olympic team as a teammate of Russell was **K.C. Jones**, the current coach of the Boston Celtics. Jones, who played in the NBA with the Celtics, had previous coaching experience with the Washington Bullets for three seasons beginning in 1974. Jones carried the Bullets to the finals of the NBA against Golden State after a 60-22 season during his second year of coaching. He compiled a 47-35 mark in his first year and had a 48-34 record the year the Bullets let him go. Jones had been an assistant coach with the Celtics before he was elevated to his present post.

There are scores of other former Olympic basketball stars now playing in the National Basketball Association, and others who have played are now retired (Oscar Robertson, for instance).

Robertson, the three-time all-American who was a member of the Olympic championship team in 1960, signed a contract with the Cincinnati Royals one day

Dantley, the latter still active in the NBA.

Among other gold medalists who are still active in sports, although not on the cinderpaths or in the boxing ring, are **John Woodruff**, who dominated the 800 meters as no other runner has in his heyday. Woodruff won the 800 meters at Berlin as a member of the same Olympic team as Jesse Owens.

Woodruff, formerly of the University of Pittsburgh, set world records indoors and outdoors, was a three-time champion and led Pitt to four championships in the Penn Relays. He annually returns to the Penn Relays, to serve as a finish judge.

Charley Jenkins, a track star at Villanova in his collegiate days, won the 400 meters in the Olympics at Melbourne in 1956, and is doing what few Olympians get an opportunity to do. Jenkins, after teaching and traveling abroad as a track coach, is back at Villanova as head track coach, seeking to maintain the high standards the Wildcats attained under his old coach, Jumbo Elliott.

Rod Milburn, who earned a gold medal in the hurdles in 1972 at Munich, is still competing and may be a candidate for the 1984 team. Last April, Milburn breezed to victory in the 110-meter hurdles in the open competition of the 25th annual Pelican Relays in Baton Rouge, La., in 13.3, which is an indication he is still in shape.

Bob Hayes was another of the famed Olympic gold medal sprinters. Hayes won the 100 meters at Tokyo and turned to pro football upon his return, playing with the Dallas Cowboys in the National Football League for several years.

One of the great track and field stars of the Olympics whose record has stood the pressure of time is **Bob Beaman**, who set a world record long jump of 29 feet, **Please see page B6**

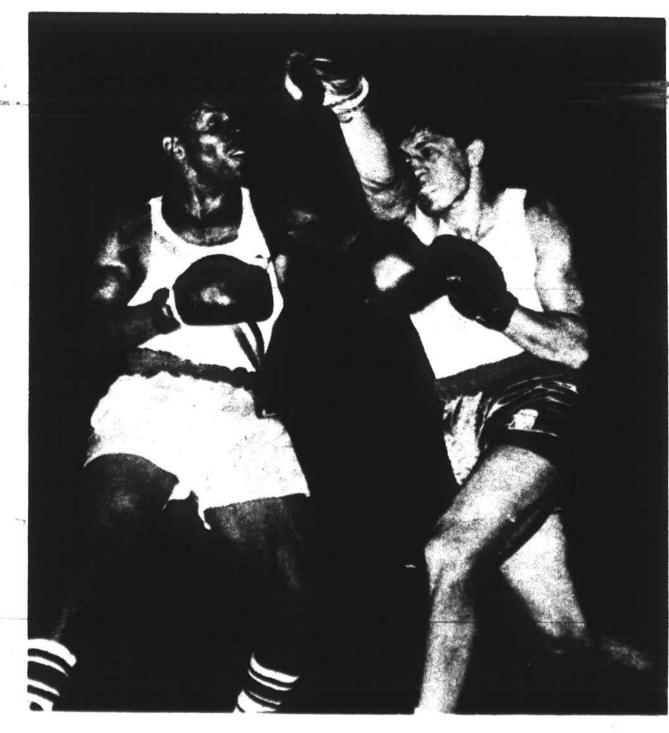


Photo Finish

Sgt. Edward Crook, left, of Ft. Campbell. Ky., winning middleweight gold medal. 1960. Tadeosz Walasek, right, of Poland won the silver medal.

